

## **REMARKS**

Claims 1-27 are currently pending; claims 25-27 are withdrawn as being directed to a non-elected invention.

### **I. RESTRICTIONS REQUIREMENT**

The Examiner has required restriction of the invention to one of the following inventions under 35 U.S.C. § 121:

- I. Claims 1-24, drawn to prosthesis, classified in class 623, subclass 18.11
- II. Claims 25-27, drawn to surgical method, classified in class 128, subclass 898.

Applicant elects **Group I**, Claims 1-24, drawn to prosthesis, classified by the Examiner in class 623, subclass 18.11.

### **II. SPECIES ELECTION**

The Examiner has further indicated that:

This application contains claims directed to the following patentably distinct species: Figure 2, Figure 2a; Figure 2b; Figure 2c; Figure 11; Figure 20; Figure 21; Figure 23; Figure 24; Figure 25; Figure 29; Figure 32; Figure 33; Figure 34; Figure 36; Figure 39; Figure 41 and Figure 42. (*see*, Office action p. 3)

Applicant elects Figure 36.

### **III. INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Applicant acknowledges, with appreciation, the Examiner's return of the signed-off SB/08 forms for the Information Disclosure Statements filed: August 22, 2005 and June 17, 2005.

Applicant looks forward to receiving the signed-off SB/08 forms for the Information Disclosure Statements filed March 8, 2005 and November 3, 2004. Along with the SB/08 forms that accompany the Information Disclosure Statement filed on even date herewith.

Application No. 10/658,449  
Response dated June 12, 2006  
Reply to Office Action of May 12, 2006


### **FEE AUTHORIZATION**

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, including petition fees and extension of time fees, to Deposit Account No. **23-2415** (Docket No. 29914-701.409).

Respectfully submitted,

Date: June 12, 2006

By: \_\_\_\_\_

  
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